

Oriental Echoes

Gold Fields of Cebu.

Captain Meany of the U. S. gun-boat Nesan, makes a trip through the southern islands every fortnight. He has probably the best opportunity to know the islands and their possibilities of any one there. In the many cruises he has taken, he has gleaned much information which will be of interest to our readers.

The captain when seen by a *New Orient* man had the following to say concerning the islands:

"The Island of Leyte is probably the most promising in mineral wealth, especially in the precious metals. The other islands have every evidence of abundant mineral wealth, but Leyte contains metal in paying quantities. About 12 to 15 miles from the shore of Leyte a party of six men found a ledge of pure quartz ore, which assayed on the surface \$28 in gold, besides carrying small quantities of copper and silver. The vein was about three feet wide on the surface and had well defined walls. It was, what is known in mining parlance as, a true fissure vein, or one which was formed when the island was created. Consequently it is permanent. Other similar veins were found, but no assay of the ore was made, but it looks like fine rock. "Gold in places is also found on this island, but just in what quantities I could not learn.

"On the other Islands Minandao, Sampango, Sunna and Cebu, gold, silver and copper is found. The Island of Leyte and these just mentioned have an abundance of coal, but it is an inferior quality, possessing the same characteristics that the Japanese has.

"The mineral outlook is extremely favorable, and the natives with a little persuasion can be influenced to permit the white man to enter the islands."

Americans resident in Yokohama complain that their resources are not equal to the great drain on their hospitalities which is a consequence of the visits of American transports and hospital-ships to that port. Their hearts are enlarged by the sight of American soldiers, especially the sick soldiers, and they want to do them all good and make them happy; but though they have systematized the work, they find it too great for them to handle, and one of them, in a recent letter published in the *New York Evening Post*, calls upon the War Department to help them out by establishing in Yokohama, a temporary reception hospital, with surgeons and a few nurses. The rest the local Americans will be able to manage. The behavior of the American soldiers who have visited Yokohama has been very much admired. There have been several letters about it, and all reports concur in proud approval.

The Filipinos have issued \$3,000,000 in paper money, the acceptance of which is made obligatory.

Lawrence Hoon, a private in the United States army at Manila, P. I., has been sentenced to be dishonorably discharged and serve one year's imprisonment for having addressed General Otis directly instead of through a subordinate officer.

Near Grohogan, Java, there is a lake of boiling mud about two miles in circumference. Immense columns of steaming mud are constantly ascending and descending.

Public story tellers still earn a good livelihood in Japan. In Tokio 600 of them ply their trade, provided with a small table, a fan and a paper wrapper, to illustrate and emphasize the points of their tales.

Reports from Manila say that prices of raiment are rising, and that a suit of cotton drill now costs \$3, and of white duck, \$6. Shirts, it appears, are not in fashion or use in Luzon—except under shirts.

DR. POSEY.

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ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

At a meeting of The Austin Publishing Company, Ltd., held September 20th, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

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Franklin Austin, Manager.
Allen Dunn, Auditor.
C. L. Clement, Secretary and Treasurer.
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